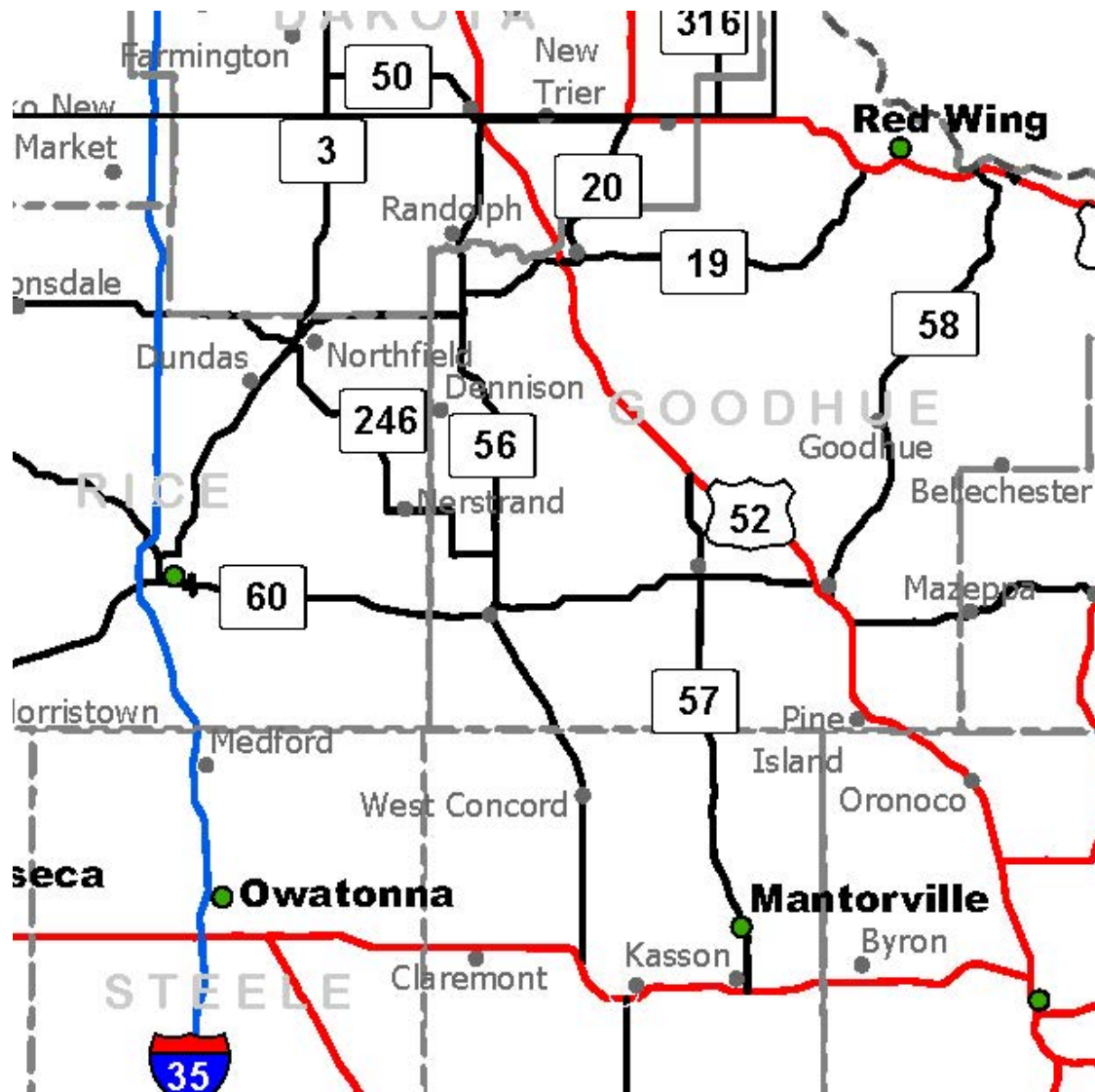


City of Northfield
Trunk Highway 246
Turnback Discussion
May 2, 2019





TH 246 Turnback

- Identified by MnDOT as Roadway Eligible for Turnback
- Agency Responsible
 - MnDot currently responsible for upkeep of that facility, including reconstruction, maintenance, and preservation.
- What is a Turnback
 - Agency with jurisdictional authority transfers the obligation to administer, control, construct, maintain, and operate a roadway to another agency.



TH 246 Turnback

- Funding for turnbacks
 - Highway Users Tax Distribution Fund (HUTDF) provides funding for the program. (fuel tax, license fee, motor vehicle sales tax)
- TH 246 exists within Goodhue and Rice County
- Both Counties need to participate in the turnback for it occur.



TH 246 Turnback

- MnDOT and Rice County are working through agreement for Turnback.
- MnDOT discussing with Goodhue County no draft agreements at this time



TH 246 Turnback

- Why Turnback
 - TH 246 is low on the priority of MnDOT
 - Priority level would increase off MnDOT System
 - MnDOT funding is primarily for preservation
 - County controls roadway operation, maintenance and improvements



TH 246 Turnback

- What does this mean for the City
 - Should the City try to get involved in the Turnback and become the responsible agency for the roadway?
 - When it moves off the state system, state will provide turnback funds to operate and improve the Highway for so many years. County gets control of Roadway.
 - In the future – for example, 20 years from Turnback
 - If County – Rice County Cost Share Policy (55% County/45% City) for improvement cost
 - If City – 100% improvement and operations costs to the City
 - 2019 City maintenance agreement with MnDOT on TH 246 from TH 3 to Marvin Ln. - \$2,843 to assist with plowing and potholes.



TH 246 Turnback

- What does this mean for the City
 - Rice County Cost Share Policy (55% County/45% City) for improvement cost
 - Policy excludes Street Lighting and Pedestrian Facilities. (For example City paid for street lighting on Woodley Street and 75% of the Sidewalk Costs)
 - If County turnback, should request a different cost share policy until roadway is fully improved?
 - MnDOT has indicated that the turnback is with the Rice and Goodhue County.
 - City would have to discuss turnback with County if the City wanted to pursue.



TH 246 Turnback

- What does this mean for the TAC and where do we go from here? What is the recommendation to council?
 - City can wait and be supportive of the Counties pursuing the turnback.
 - Then City can work with Rice County after they receive the Jurisdictional Transfer.
 - City can request Rice County transfer the Roadway to the back to the City along with Funding



TH 246 Turnback

- Benefits for City control of TH 246 Turnback
 - City can control access and future improvement
 - Scope of work can include trails, sidewalks, lighting, etc.
 - The Intersection Control Evaluation Study at TH 246 and Jefferson Pkwy looked at other issues at the school intersections
 - Possible Roundabout at the Middle School
 - City could pursue this improvement
 - Pedestrian/Bike Plan – one the highest needs of input for sidewalk was along the TH 246 Corridor out to TH 3.



Next Steps

- City would identify current Ped/Bike Plan info, Roundabout at Middle School, and Full Street Reconstruction needs to Rice County as part of there turnback discussions and negation with MnDOT
- City can request Rice County consider different cost share policy on turnback roadways.
- Other Thoughts/Discussion?

